

# Arkansas

## Crop Progress and Condition



Arkansas  
Field Office

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U. S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

10800 Financial Centre Parkway, Suite 110  
Little Rock, AR 72211-3543  
(501) 228-9926  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar>

Reporting for the week ending April 6, 2008.

### General

The severe weather present during the month of March continued into the first week of April as storms again dumped large amounts of rainfall across most of Arkansas and produced tornadoes in the central part of the state. All reporting stations recorded rainfall, as amounts ranged from 1.08 inches in El Dorado to 7.89 inches in Hot Springs. Fourteen reporting stations received 10 inches or more of rain in the last four weeks. Seven out of the nine districts are well ahead of year to date normal rainfall, and only the South Central and Southeast districts have all reporting stations recording below normal rainfall for the year to date. The reporting station at Gilbert has slightly more than 16 inches of rainfall above normal this year. Topsoil moisture supplies were 21% adequate and 79% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 36% adequate and 64% surplus. The wet weather affected the ability of producers to get into fields as on average, the number of days suitable for field work was 1.7. High temperatures last week ranged from 67 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit while low temperatures ranged from 32 to 47 degrees Fahrenheit.

### Crop

Heavy rain and overall wet fields during the first week of April once again delayed planting of crops. With corn plantings at 26%, rice plantings at 2%, and sorghum plantings at 1%, this week's crop progress was well behind the respective 5-year averages of 63%, 12%, and 14% for corn, rice, and sorghum. Corn emerged was at 18%, with most of the emergence occurring in the southeastern portion of the state. Excessive rainfall also caused problems for wheat producers. Producers are waiting to assess the damage, but there are already reports of lost and damaged fields. Winter wheat has just started heading. The surplus of moisture has created favorable conditions for stripe rust on wheat.

### Livestock

Producers managed to keep cattle in fair to good condition despite some reports of problems with pests such as gnats and flies. Producers in central Arkansas need to repair fences and clean up debris left after the storms. Pastures were greening up nicely, and some producers were fertilizing and spraying for weeds. Alfalfa and other hay crops were also in fair to good condition.

### Percent of Progress

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	2007	5-Year Avg
Corn	Planted	26	24	81	63
	Emerged	18	3	33	20
Rice	Planted	2	2	23	12
Sorghum	Planted	1	1	33	14
Winter Wheat	Headed	4	0	35	11

### Condition in Percentages

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	3	14	39	39	5
Hay-Alfalfa	2	0	29	65	4
Hay-Other	0	1	41	57	1
Pasture and Range	0	6	33	56	5

# **Temperatures and Precipitation Week Ending Arpil 6, 2008**

District	Station	Temperatures			Rainfall				
		High	Low	Dep from Normal *	Wk Ending Apr. 6	4 wk	4 wk	Year to Date	
						Accum	Normal	2008	Normal
Northwest	Fayetteville	70	32	1	2.45	8.83	3.92	17.06	9.76
	Harrison	72	34	-1	2.51	9.95	3.95	16.96	10.55
N. Central	Calico Rock	69	37	1	3.90	14.14	4.23	23.39	11.56
	Gilbert	71	36	-2	4.35	16.28	3.72	27.08	10.77
	Greers Ferry	67	37	0	3.51	9.31	4.69	19.94	13.23
	Mtn. Home	69	38	-2	3.35	14.88	4.09	25.03	11.29
Northeast	Batesville	68	38	-1	3.06	11.66	4.21	21.03	12.27
	Blytheville	71	40	0	3.52	8.87	4.59	16.58	13.54
	Jonesboro	69	38	0	5.42	11.02	4.15	19.74	12.51
	Keiser	70	41	-1	4.32	9.02	4.48	17.00	13.58
	Newport	68	42	-3	5.23	11.38	4.56	22.62	12.91
W. Central	Booneville	76	44	-2	2.19	12.77	3.70	21.64	11.40
	Clarksville	72	45	1	2.32	11.71	4.18	20.49	11.34
	Dardanelle	71	44	0	4.27	13.72	4.13	24.55	12.02
	Ft. Smith	77	43	1	2.59	6.71	3.61	16.55	9.84
	Mena	71	42	0	4.22	13.60	4.73	22.70	13.40
	Ozark	74	44	1	2.92	9.62	3.95	18.84	11.00
Central	Conway	71	40	-2	5.33	12.05	4.28	23.88	12.44
	Hot Springs	76	39	-1	7.89	14.45	4.85	25.27	14.26
	Little Rock	76	42	1	3.79	8.11	4.67	15.74	13.16
	Morrilton	71	42	1	4.22	12.49	4.10	21.75	12.25
	N. Little Rock	74	43	-3	4.00	8.75	4.54	16.52	12.75
E. Central	Brinkley	74	42	-1	4.70	8.70	4.40	16.47	13.71
	Marianna	75	40	-1	4.77	10.13	5.07	19.23	15.01
	Stuttgart	76	42	-1	3.42	5.63	4.60	14.43	13.61
	West Memphis	75	43	1	5.63	9.89	5.14	17.02	15.27
Southwest	Dequeen	78	44	4	4.25	8.72	4.68	15.66	13.66
	Hope	78	45	0	2.34	7.47	4.60	18.74	14.43
	Texarkana	81	47	2	2.04	4.70	3.75	13.59	12.06
S. Central	Camden	81	46	1	2.65	3.95	4.64	12.38	15.09
	El Dorado	82	45	3	1.08	2.48	4.58	10.71	15.55
	Warren	78	44	0	3.34	5.38	5.42	14.58	16.94
Southeast	Eudora	85	41	1	5.73	6.86	5.51	17.06	18.31
	Monticello	79	43	3	2.47	3.60	5.17	12.24	16.86
	Pine Bluff	79	44	1	2.68	4.60	4.68	10.96	14.62
	Rohwer	78	45	0	4.00	5.45	4.84	14.20	15.96

\* Departure from normal =  $\frac{(\text{high} - \text{low})}{2}$  - 30 year average.

Produced by:  
United States Department of Agriculture – NASS  
Arkansas Field Office  
Becky L. Cross, Director

In cooperation with:  
University of Arkansas – Cooperative Extension Service  
Ivory W. Lyles, Associate Vice President for Agriculture, Extension

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Renee Fair, Meteorologist in Charge